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FARMING AND THE SCIENCES.

Editor Anderson *Intelligencer*:

Several indications have recently become prominent to show that the study of the Sciences is becoming a necessity for our people, especially those of them who have a more intimate connection with farming.

I wish to have a familiar talk with my brother farmers, and show them, if I can, how perfectly dependent ever-farmer is upon the knowledge of the Sciences by somebody who can make that knowledge known; and how impossible it is for farming to make progress without the knowledge in somebody of the laws which a kind Creator has provided for the benefit of his creatures. To show in a familiar way how completely dependent mankind is for their living on somebody knowing and explaining the Sciences, I assert this, and defy contradiction, that a man who does not use that knowledge derived from those laws of God called Sciences, cannot perform one single act, except talking, that a horse cannot do. He can without science draw his breath and eat such fruit as God has made grow wild. This being a fact, I am anxious to dull the edge of that prejudice which many good farmers have even of talking on the subject of the Sciences, by making it so plain that any one who can read will understand me.

First, then, what is the meaning of the word Science? The word itself simply means "to know." But it has been further applied to a collection of the leading truths relating to any of the laws of God, properly arranged and systematized. Thus: The leading truths relating to that law of God which treats of the internal structure of the earth, its various contents, its various elements, put there for food for plants and trees, all arranged and systematized, is called the Science of Geology. The leading truths of that law which treats of the properties of mineral substances, all arranged and systematized, is called the Science of Mineralogy. The leading truths relating to that law which treats of all matters calculated by figures, and of whatever can be measured and numbered, all arranged and systematized, is called the Science of Mathematics. Arithmetic, Geometry, Algebra, &c., are branches of this. The Science of Chemistry has for its object to discover the nature and properties of all bodies, which is done by decomposition and combination. By it the elements of food, which any plant has taken from the soil can be exactly ascertained, and by it the soil can be analyzed, and whatever food it has for plants can be also discovered.

It would seem that every farmer must see how important this knowledge of this Science would be to farmers. Men who have studied the laws relating to Geometry and Chemistry tell us that God has placed in the soil fourteen elements or ingredients for food for plants. Now, if a farmer can be told what the corn he plants takes up by its roots, and also exactly what the soil he plants the corn in has of the food the corn wants, then when he knows what the soil lacks, he will know what to apply.

Hydrology is the Science which arranges and systematizes all the properties and laws which are contained in and govern water. Mechanics is that science which investigates the forces by which all bodies are to be kept still or put in motion, and put in a particular form or shape. The power which it uses are the lever, pulley, screw, axle, inclined plane and wedge. Botany is the science which treats of the structure of plants, the function of their parts, the latitude in which they grow, and their classification and names. Metallurgy is more of an art than a science, and comprehends the whole process of separating the ore from other matters, and smelting and refining the metal. Natural History arranges and systematizes a description of the earth and all its productions, and includes Zoology, Botany, Geology, Mineralogy and fish culture.

The foregoing contains a description of those Sciences which have a more intimate bearing on the advancement of Scientific Agriculture, and by which all farming operations are carried on; in many cases the farmer not being aware of it, as I will now proceed to illustrate. Suppose a beginner to commence farming. He must have land, and that cleared and fenced, a horse and plow ready for work. Now, think how many of these Sciences must be known by somebody before the plow can be started. To make the iron, God has made a law there should be placed in the earth the ore of iron; a mineralogist then first finds the ore; then chemistry must find the composition that will make a crucible to stand heat enough to melt the ore; the metallurgist must be at hand to smelt and separate the ore from earthy and other matters; then mathematics must show how the machinery must be made to beat it into bars; then the science of mechanics must show how to shape it into a plow-share, and mathematics must show how to make the stock to suit the plow. Here, then, somebody must know this whole array of sciences before a plow can be made and started to work, and still more of a man must be known before a fence or a house can be built. Then get your corn and start to plant. Where are you to get in grain—in the ground or on top? Ask the geologist, and he tells you that all the elements which God has made for food for plants are placed in the soil. Then there is another law that tells us that God has given to seed a vitality that when placed in the ground and have moisture and heat, will send out roots that suck up food from the elements in the soil and grow. The science

Anderson's Intelligencer

BY E. B. MURRAY & CO.

ANDERSON, S. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1878.

THE CHARLESTON COUPON CASES.

CHARLESTON, July 19, 1878.

Editor Anderson *Intelligencer*:—When I determined to reply to your first article upon this subject, I had neither the desire nor the intention to enter into a prolonged controversy with you. Such controversies are of little practical benefit, the good they accomplish is seldom sufficient compensation for the bad temper they so frequently excite.

I must, however, ask your indulgence again, in order to enlarge somewhat upon several of the points submitted in my former communication. I repeat myself, I do so with the desire to impress and bring out more clearly those ideas, which, as I infer from your reply, I have previously failed to make sufficiently explicit.

Before proceeding, however, permit me to say that I do not think your formal introduction of me in your reply, within the limits of, or necessary to legitimate comment on what I had written. It leads to the inference that Messrs. Lord and Inglesby, were in some way concerned in my action in this matter. It is but justice to these gentlemen that I should state that they were in no way concerned in my having written to you, until the paper containing my communication was placed in their hands by me. (Nor are my views to be regarded as in any way "semi-official." If there be any authority or lack of logical certainty in them, I alone am to be charged therewith. What was written concerning the proceedings in question, is a matter of public record and discussion in open court, knowledge of which does not depend upon the peculiarity of my position. That you should have called attention to that position was, as I have said, not necessary to this discussion; but I do not regret your having done so, inasmuch as you thus give me the opportunity to state that your conclusion in the premises is erroneous, and enable me to fix the whole responsibility of my letter upon myself, where it properly and only belongs.

The first point to which I would again call your attention, is that the cases under discussion were not "rushed to trial before Judge Mackey." I again answer your allegation that they were, by stating that it was to satisfy the State that these cases were not tried before Judge Mackey. The Attorney-General came to Charleston during that term, and earnestly urged as a matter of convenience to him and the other counsel with him, that the filing of the return should not be then insisted on. It was after the most earnest resistance on the part of the counsel for the bondholders, that the delay asked for was granted; and then only upon the promise of the Attorney-General that the Relations should not lose that term of the court. The bondholders and their counsel, it would therefore appear, not only would have been willing, but were in fact very desirous that their cases should be argued before a judge whose views were not known, and at a time anterior to the organization of the special court. The return was not filed during that term, as the cases were again continued for the reason already stated.

It surely must be clear to you now that Judge Mackey heard the argument simply in the course of the business of his term. Judging from their previous conduct, it is evident that the relations would have pressed for a trial, at every term of the court until some judge would be found willing to grant it. They had a right, perfect and unaffected to do so, and none can reasonably question it. The second point and one to which I ask special attention, is that the investigation of the coupons, and consequently of the bonds could have been had before Judge Mackey as well as it can be had before the special court. Juries could have been empaneled in the Circuit Court; commissions could have issued therefrom for the examination of witnesses in any part of the country, and all other requisites could have been provided there for as through a shifting of the actings and doings of the officers who issued the consolidation bonds and of the nature of the securities, given in exchange for them, as can be had under the omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent eyes of the court of claims. The investigation of the coupons is the investigation of the bonds to which they respectively belong; and the State could thus have been saved the expense necessary to the maintenance of a special court. The bondholders did not avoid such an inquiry into their bonds. There was nothing in the remedy which they adopted which precluded it. It was no part of the scheme, "to harass the State," ruin her finances, and cast contempt upon her extraordinary court, which with so much magnanimity you ascribe to them, that they should dodge the investigation of their claims. By their conduct they showed that they stood there, as doubtless they stand now, ready to go to trial upon every allegation of fraud in these claims, and to assist in furnishing a statement of facts for the Supreme Court as full and complete as any that can go from the court of claims.

The State itself declined the investigation in the Circuit Court. Instead of a return which would have made its defense certain and capable of analysis, it made no direct allegation of facts constituting fraud, and instead contented itself with a general allegation which was not a proper defense in such an action, and which did not open the way for the examination of any direct and positive facts. I am reminded that fraud vitates every transaction, and it is said that I cannot carry be acquainted with that maxim. I do know it, but I know too

that equity will not declare void a contract on the ground of fraud, where no fraud has been proved or attempted to be proved. I do know that who holds a coupon bond, having about it all the semblance of a good and valid security, cannot be deprived of its benefit by the bare, naked unsupported charge of fraud, and I also know that it was no defence to this action to allege the institution of another court, for the trial of the issues, when it was not even pretended that the Circuit Court was thereby deprived of jurisdiction. I know all this, and it would be a matter of astonishment to me if I should discover that the INTELLIGENCER did not know it.

The INTELLIGENCER seems to imagine that I take the ground that these bonds should be paid and their coupons received for taxes, without any investigation, and without regard to whether they be fraudulent or not. Now I wish it to be distinctly understood that I assume no such position. What I did say was that these bondholders had a perfect right to institute these proceedings; that they were proceedings which had been sanctioned by centuries of continued usage; that their conduct was not unpatriotic, because the proceedings were instituted when they had no other remedy, and that having begun thence, they had a right to continue them, when they found the new remedy incapable of giving the relief which they had been seeking. I am quite as much in favor of an investigation of the bonds as the INTELLIGENCER can possibly be, and the point I especially made, and again urge, is that the investigation could have been had in the Circuit Court, and that the bondholders were entirely willing that it should have been had there. I do not wish the State to pay fraudulent bonds, but what I insist on is that the bondholders had a right to report to an old remedy which has served in hundreds of emergencies of the same nature as the present; and I protest with earnestness against the creation of a sentiment in opposition to their right, and which holds good citizens forth to the community, as wanting in patriotism, and as injuring the State. They injure the State far more who advocate the creation of a new tribunal, for the trial of such cases. They declare to the world that South Carolina has established courts, and filled their benches, for the trial of controversies between her citizens, and that she will not submit to these same courts, good enough for the citizens, the adjudication of cases to which she is a party.

My letters upon this subject have been written solely with the desire to correct an erroneous impression, and in no spirit of purposeless antagonism, and I shall write no more.

Having full confidence in the impregnable strength of my positions, I rest satisfied that the future history of these bonds and of the State will be their most complete justification.

SIMEON HYDE, JR.

Management of Chickens.

Chickens require neither food or drink on the day on which they are hatched. Both are injurious, as they interfere with the natural digestion of the yolk, which is absorbed into the bowels at the period of hatching, and constitutes the first food. If grubs, oat meal and the like are spread before the hen on the twenty-first day, she is induced to leave the nest, the last-hatched chickens are unable to follow, and being weakly, frequently perish. If, instead of this, the hen is left alone, and the nest is left as it is, the chickens will be found strong enough to follow her. The plan of cramming pepper corns or grains of barley down the throat of newly-hatched chickens is exceedingly injurious. The best food for them is sweet, coarse oatmeal, mixed in to a crumbly paste with milk, and a certain proportion of custard made by beating together an egg with two tablespoons of milk, and "setting" it by a gentle heat. Custard so made is eaten with avidity, and the chickens make rapid progress upon it. Such a preparation is far superior to the hard-boiled eggs so often employed and which is not relished by the chickens. The young birds are also very fond of, and quickly eat, a meal porridge; milk is frequently used to mix the barley or oatmeal, but it should be remembered that it soon becomes sour in summer, and is decidedly injurious if employed in that state. No more food, therefore, should be mixed with milk than can be eaten in a few hours. Sopped bread is by no means desirable, since it does not appear to afford the necessary resistance to the natural grinding of the gizzard, and consequently the chickens soon become weakly and affected with diarrhea from its use. In order to satisfy the hunger of the hen, which is usually very great when she leaves the nest, it is quite desirable to give her as much grain as she can consume. Then, having satisfied her hunger, she will be able to digest the food which at this time is considerable, she will brood over her unfledged young and keep them at rest whilst they are digesting the yolk that has been absorbed just before hatching. After the first few days some whole grain, such as small tail wheat, or some barley, may be given to the young brood, and it will be found to be greatly relished, and doubtless affords a wholesome exercise for the extraordinary grinding power of the gizzard.

Chickens should have a constant supply of food, or be fed at very short intervals. The first food should be given at daybreak. With regard to animal food, there is none equal to the natural supply of worms and insects obtained by the hen when she is at large; small worms or a shovelful of mold, containing an ant's nest, may be given if the chickens are in a confined situation, and will be found far superior to boiled eggs, chopped meat, or any more artificial mixture. Cooing, which is frequently employed to prevent the wanderings of hens with chickens, is not desirable, and though in many cases it is a necessary evil, yet not the less an evil.—*American Cultivator*.

—When a man goes home at three o'clock, he scratches a square rod of plastering from the wall in trying to strike a light with a nail, throws it down in disgust and asks blessings on all the match-makers.

OUR FLORIDA CORRESPONDENCE.

From Anderson to Florida Through the Country—Pleasures and Amusements Incident to the Trip.

ALABAMA, FLA., June 20, 1878.

Editor Anderson *Intelligencer*:—In my last letter I took leave of you at Mr. Henry Hill's, in Wilkes County, Ga., promising to give you a continuation of our trip at another time, which I will try and hurry through with, so as not to tire you too much, though I believe it is the province of editors and newspaper men to be bored!

We left Mr. Hill's Monday morning, the 18th of February, and moved on for Washington, Ga., over some of the worst roads I ever saw, frequently up to our axles in the mud, and sometimes leaving the direct road on account of places described to us that I was fearful of being unable to pass, though it did look unreasonable to expect worse than some I had gone over.

We passed through Washington about half hour before sunset with the single-trail of my one-horse wagon so nearly pulled in too as to necessitate a new one, which I ordered made, and expect to go back for, as I wish to drive beyond town to some convenient place near a farm house, for my lady and the little boy must have a room, though the others can camp-in fact, rather like it. This we find at Capt. J. T. Wingfield's, two miles beyond Washington from Anderson, and a sign of relief escape us all as we drive up and are told we will be accommodated. The wagons are driven under some large oaks in Capt. W.'s yard about dark. My lady is helped out and asked into the house; the boys unwhit the teams and prepare for camp, while I ride back to W. with my old singletree and iron, that there may be no delay in getting off in the morning than necessary. I regret its being too late, and we too much hurried on account of our accident, to see more than a passing glance of Washington. I had been there before on a visit, (before the war,) and had several acquaintances, whom I should like to see—among them Dr. Andrews, who, it will be remembered, was stationed while at Anderson Court House, during the war, on the examining board of physicians. But it will be impossible to do so, as our stages are necessarily short and time too limited.

This morning, 13th, we are delayed in making a start until eleven o'clock, hence make only about thirteen miles to-day, over roads more or less bad. I should not forget to mention the kindness of Capt. and Mrs. J. T. Wingfield, at whose house we stopped last night, and who were exceedingly kind to my lady and us all, giving us a comfortable room with two beds and other conveniences, refusing any remuneration therefor, and expressing pleasure in being able to afford us accommodation. These attentions, Mr. Editor, to a traveler and a stranger is true hospitality, and was by me highly appreciated.

We stop to-night at Mr. Moore's, (I forgot to give his first name,) about two miles beyond Little River, on which Mr. Moore has merchant mills and saw mills. The character of the country through this section of Georgia is considerably broken but productive, which I judge principally from the stubble on the land, as it is all cleared up into farms along the roads, and no timber growth to judge from.

Mr. Moore and family, like all Georgians with whom we have come in contact, were very kind to us, the latter assisting my lady in cooking our rations and showing other little attentions that were much appreciated. We start this morning, the 20th, for Warrenton, and drive about three miles beyond to Mr. Culpepper's, without accident. Here we are offered our choice of a room in the house or a nice, cleanly, scoured, vacant cabin in the lot with chimney—wood and pins convenient—and we take the latter. Mr. Culpepper is a paralytic, and though not bed-ridden, both his physical and mental condition give evidence of the inroads of his disease. Mrs. C. and daughter come out and sit with us until bed time to-night, and this morning the 21st, being as usual some nice fried ham and biscuit and light bread to add to our lunch. This is very kind, and I should not forget to add that in nearly every case these kindnesses are afforded us without charge. True, I always offer to pay for them, but very seldom will anything be received.

Leaving you for the present, Mr. Editor, I will offer as an apology for the dullness of my letters that I had little opportunity in coming on of observing the country. It was a chill and bleak season of the year, nearly every one housed, and though not a great deal of rain on us, very little sunshine, and I put down in my note book only such little incidents as occurred to us, that those who might know what to expect en route who are induced to follow. Hope they may be a little more interesting at my advance.

—Kate Southern is gratified. Having heard her keepers killed, she writes as follows to the Savannah *News*: "Being a convict, I might expect the cold embrace of rattling chains, striped clothes, hard labor, coarse diet, and even the lash; but not so in my case. I am put to light work, cutting and making convict clothes; and, besides, I have a good deal of money in my pocket. I have been kept in convict stripes; have good and wholesome diet, such as my keepers have upon the family table; no threats of the lash; no cooking for convicts, and no such thing as the central prison in a jail. Please, for the sake of a humiliated and unfortunate woman, correct the reports in circulation, so unjust to my dear keepers, and you will receive the thanks of one so injured and so disgraced."

Lead, Blenheim and Zinc are immensely useful in the industrial arts; and as immensely injurious when applied to the skin, so beautifully does the human

MORE ABOUT SIERRA LEONE.

Free town, as a Pleasant Contrast to Dismaled Monrovia.

Correspondence News and Courier.

MONROVIA, June 8, 1878.

I sent letters to you last night, which I have now started on its return to Sierra Leone before daylight this morning. A body of five men were writing in haste, I omitted several interesting points about Sierra Leone. One of the principal features was, that every body more than to them) is prone to omit, when necessity compels some omission—

RELIGIOUS MATTERS. Churches are plentiful in and about Free town. The first one noticed on arrival was St. George's Cathedral, which stands near the water side, and is a large structure apparently of stone, (I had no opportunity of examining closely,) with a tower and clock. It has that substantial, solid look common to English churches, many of whose members, according to the illustrated magazines, which always impress one with the feeling that their is indeed an established church, able to stand the assaults of within and without. Over this presides an English clergyman. I met him in the street and recognized him immediately. I had heard him, in society many times before, in pictures, in society dramas and elsewhere, clearly shaven face, shaved hair, shaved coat and all. He bore his profession all over him, and in this regard it seems as though the English set an example worthy of imitation by American ecclesiastics, many of whom seem to dress with a view of concealing their vocation as much as possible. It is as well known fact that it is often impossible to decide on sight whether a man is a minister of the Gospel or a sewing machine salesman. The English clergyman in this country, in comparison with which they seemed to regard Sierra Leone as an earthly paradise. But we had to come, and we came. I cannot close without again speaking of the kindness expressed by the Governor, and from Mr. Broadhurst, the American representative, at Free town, who, in the course of the day, and displayed in a thousand ways, and everybody aboard the Azor has reason to be extremely grateful to those gentlemen. When I have gotten my bearings here a little, I will write what I know about Liberia.

A B. WILLIAMS. We left Sierra Leone with some regret, for we were treated with great kindness and consideration by everybody, and had enjoyed the abundance of fresh meats, vegetables and fruits, and the walks about the streets, always full of animation and bustle, intended to be a pleasant surprise to us. We received there from everybody the most encouraging reports of Monrovia. I interviewed several ex-Liberians, and received the most unfavorable accounts of this country, in comparison with which they seemed to regard Sierra Leone as an earthly paradise. But we had to come, and we came. I cannot close without again speaking of the kindness expressed by the Governor, and from Mr. Broadhurst, the American representative, at Free town, who, in the course of the day, and displayed in a thousand ways, and everybody aboard the Azor has reason to be extremely grateful to those gentlemen. When I have gotten my bearings here a little, I will write what I know about Liberia.

Crop Review.

The New York *Herald* has telegrams from all portions of the country, and is therefore able to give a comprehensive and thorough review of the growing crops. The outlook is most satisfactory, and everything promises cheap bread in 1879. There is now under plow in the United States an area of not less than 50,000,000 acres, and the amount of land under cultivation than in 1877.

This land is principally planted in grain. There is an increase of 2,000,000 acres planted in wheat over 1877. The crop, moreover, is in a very promising condition. The Coast States, California, Virginia, etc., with the exception of Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee, show a poor crop, but in all the Central and Western States, the great wheat growing States of the Union, the outlook is grand. Kansas, it is thought, will lead off with 45,000,000 bushels of wheat, the wheat crop by 60 per cent. ever raised in any State of the Union.

Most of the other Western States show an increase in the expected wheat crop; in Wisconsin this increase is estimated at 4,000,000 bushels, in Iowa at 3,000,000; in Minnesota at three-tenths; in Nebraska, at four-tenths. The condition of the crops in these States is almost without parallel. It is estimated that this country will raise between 300,000,000 and 400,000,000 bushels of wheat, 100,000,000 is needed for home consumption, 45,000,000 for seed, leaving a surplus of from 110,000,000 to 140,000,000 bushels for export.

The wheat crop of the rest of the world is poor. The crop in Russia is a failure in Germany, Belgium, France, and is behindhand in France, and is poor in India. We will, therefore, send a larger amount of wheat abroad this year than usual. It is impossible, however, to send a ship as much as 140,000,000 bushels.

There are 50,000,000 acres of land planted with corn. The crop, therefore, will be larger than last year. The other grains, barley and rye, are of small importance, but of these also the acreage this year is larger than in 1877, and the condition far superior.

Tobacco is the only staple that will show an actual decrease in production this year. The excessive crop of last year, and the small prices paid discouraged the farmers, and the consequence is a decrease in the acreage planted in tobacco.

With this single exception, the crops of 1878 will exceed those of any previous year in the history of this country. —It gives us great pleasure to announce the gratifying fact that, as one of the results of the Azor's eventful trip, an order has been received by J. H. Hall & Co., of Charleston, for lumber, shingles, doors, blinds, sashes, and other articles for the erection of a number of houses in Monrovia. This order was secured for Charleston by our special correspondent, Mr. A. B. Williams, who certainly lost no time in making known the advertisement of this city as the shipping port for African trade.

Such material as is now to be sent out to Monrovia has hitherto been bought in England, and there is no doubt that Charleston can supply it more cheaply. The cost of shipping to the port of Messrs. Hall & Co. have engaged freight room on the Azor, which vessel, according to the calculation of the Exodus Assurance Company, may cross the bar any day, as she is ordered to remain no longer than fifteen days at Monrovia. There is no reason why the Charleston merchants and manufacturers should not send out an assortment of samples by the Azor, and in this way secure a foothold in a new field. If the action of the *News and Courier*, in sending Mr. Williams to Monrovia, shall cause the emigrants in Liberia, to be properly cared for, and shall, in addition, give to Charleston the import and export of the "Black Republic," the work of the *News and Courier* will have been richer in substantial advantages than we could have ventured to hope.

—It happened in this wise: They were coming off the steamer across the plank would tip her as she should fall. He said, "Never fear." In that case we shall be all right. The steamer had just started, and the plank was still in the air. The steamer, however, did not stop, and the plank fell into the water. The steamer, however, did not stop, and the plank fell into the water.

LEGAL ADVERTISING.—We are compelled to require cash payments for advertising space in the *Intelligencer*. Advertisements for legal notices, which will only be inserted in the *Intelligencer*, must be paid for in advance. Citations, two insertions. \$1.00. Notice, three insertions. \$1.50. Trial Settlements, five insertions. \$2.50. TO CORRESPONDENTS.—In order to receive attention, contributors must send their names, and the true name and address of the writer. Accepted manuscripts will not be returned, unless the necessary stamps are furnished to repay the postage thereon.

We are not responsible for the views and opinions of our correspondents.

All communications should be addressed to "Editor Anderson," and not to the publisher. Orders, &c., should be made payable to the order of E. B. MURRAY & CO., Anderson, S. C.

RANDOLPH OF ROANOKE.

The Extraordinary Vigor of a Dying Man.

John Randolph's eccentricity his latest biographer, Mr. Bond, tells many curious anecdotes. One of these concerns the visit made by Col. T. S. Flournoy and his father at Roanoke in the year 1829. Col. Flournoy being then a lad. John Randolph's body servant invited them into his chamber, where they found a brilliant and a very agreeable man. Randolph, apparently very ill. He said, in response to Mr. Flournoy's inquiries, "John, I am dying; I shall not live through the night." Col. Flournoy said, "My father informed me that you were on your way to Halifax, and I thought, as you were to say to the people on Monday, court day, that he was no longer a candidate for the convention; that he did not expect to live through the night, certainly not till the meeting of the convention. He soon began to discuss the questions of reform and the rights of the people, and the subject of the convention; and becoming more animated, he rose up in bed—my father and myself being the only auditors—and delivered one of the most interesting speeches, in conversational style, that I have ever met. My good fortune to be occupying the time from 8:30 until midnight.

"The next morning, immediately after breakfast, Mr. Randolph sent for us again. We found him again in a 'dying' condition. He stated to us that he was satisfied that he would not live through the day, and repeated his request that, if his father would have it announced to the people of Halifax that he declined being a candidate for the convention. Once more he became animated while discussing the questions of reform, and kept us till 10 o'clock at his bedside. For we were about to start he took a solemn leave of us, saying: 'In all probability you will never see me again.' Before we reached Clark's Ferry, five miles distant, we heard some coming on horseback, pushing to overtake us. It proved to be Mr. Randolph, with Johnny in a sulky following. The next morning, Monday, he rode nine miles to court, where an immense crowd of people had gathered to hear him. He addressed them in a plain, but in strain of argument and sarcastic eloquence rarely equalled by any one."

Why We Have Hot Weather.

The sun was in apogee and the earth in aphelion this morning at 24 minutes after 8 o'clock; the earth reached perihelion on the 1st of January, at the greatest distance from the sun, the sun was three millions of miles further from the sun than he was on the 1st of January. Taking the most approved estimation of the sun's distance, and using round numbers, the distance between the sun and earth is at present ninety-three millions of miles, while in mid winter the two bodies are ninety millions of miles apart. The question naturally arises as to the reason why we do not have a cooler weather when the sun is farthest away. This is easily explained, for the sun's rays fall perpendicularly upon the earth in midsummer, and obliquely in midwinter; the intensity of the heat far overbalancing the difference in the distance. The summer in the northern hemisphere is the greater distance of the central fire, for in the southern hemisphere, where the sun is in perigee at midsummer, the heat is intensified, and the temperature is higher in Australia and South Africa than in corresponding latitudes north of the equator. It is well we were not living about thirty-six hundred years before the creation of Adam for the sun was then in perigee during the northern summer, and in apogee during the southern summer. John Herschel estimates that the northern summer of that distant period of the world's history was twenty-three degrees hotter, and the northern winter twenty-three degrees colder than it is at present. Every inhabitant of the north temperate zone has therefore reason to be thankful that the sun is in apogee at this season, for what would become of the poor mortals who have been simmering in the intense heat of the last five days if they were required to bear a temperature of from ten to twenty degrees above the boiling point of water, in which the thermometer has been mercilessly revelling?

The Habit of Reading.

"I have no time to read" is the common complaint, and especially of women, who are so much occupied with their prevent continuous book perusal. They cannot devote as much attention to books as they are compelled to devote to their avocations, that they cannot read. But this is a great mistake. It is not that they have no time, but that they do not know how to use it. Those who devote in old moments, half a dozen pages at a time, often give us more satisfaction and are more thoroughly digested than those who make a particular habit of reading a whole book at once. Their mark in the world, however, has been the men who have in boyhood formed the habit of reading at every available moment, whether for five minutes or five hours.

The habit of reading, rather than the time at our command, is the key to the road to learning. Many of the most cultivated persons, whose names have been famous as students, have given only two or three hours to their books. They have taken up a spare minute in the midst of our work, and read a little, but a page or a paragraph, we shall find our brains quickened, and our toil lightened by just so much increased satisfaction as the book gives us. Nothing helps the memory so much as the frequent review of what has been read. It is to be considered why our hands are busy. A new idea from a new volume is like oil, which reduces the friction of the machinery of life. What we remember of a book is not the book itself, but the ideas which it has taken together, and which we use as weapons for the mind, and substantial armor for the soul. The old minutes which we are inclined to waste, if carefully used, will do much good. It is the long run, and not the short dash, that counts. It is the steady, and not the sudden, that wins. It is the habit of reading, and not the time at our command, that is the key to the road to learning. Many of the most cultivated persons, whose names have been famous as students, have given only two or three hours to their books. They have taken up a spare minute in the midst of our work, and read a little, but a page or a paragraph, we shall find our brains quickened, and our toil lightened by just so much increased satisfaction as the book gives us. Nothing helps the memory so much as the frequent review of what has been read. It is to be considered why our hands are busy. A new idea from a new volume is like oil, which reduces the friction of the machinery of life. What we remember of a book is not the book itself, but the ideas which it has taken together, and which we use as weapons for the mind, and substantial armor for the soul. The old minutes which we are inclined to waste, if carefully used, will do much good. It is the long run, and not the short dash, that counts. It is the steady, and not the sudden, that wins. It is the habit of reading, and not the time at our command, that is the key to the road to learning.